MMR_0163 John E. Roberts

NMRA President Allen Pollock, right, and Executive Vice President John Roberts, left, present Allen McClelland with his distinguished Service Award.

John Roberts on left above

John Roberts, MMR, HLM

John Roberts has been a member of the NMRA since 1962 and is a Master Model Railroader. A resident of Williamsburg, VA, he is a Director of Property Risk Control Services for an international insurance brokerage and consulting firm.

John was born in Chicago in 1947 and is a Civil Engineer by education. He and his wife, Suzie, have two grown children and two granddaughters. John has served as Cincinnati Division 7 Superintendent, Mid-Central Region Vice President for eight years, and MCR President and Trustee for four years, National Vice President for six years, and served two years as National President prior to Mike Brestel.

John is currently building the O-Scale version of his railroad, the Blue Ridge & Southern, in a layout room over the garage. He has had numerous articles and photographs published in the *Bulletin* and other magazines and books; and has consulted with several manufacturers on the design of structure models.

John is a national photo and model contest winner, has been photo editor of the annual calendar project the last nine year, a contest judge for many years on every level of the NMRA, is President of NMRA Museum, Inc., and a member of the C & O and WM Historical Societies.

John says – "I plan to continue working closely with officers, staff and all department heads to push our programs forward and to assist regions, divisions and SIG's with strategic "grass roots" efforts. The challenges of an economic downturn, an aging membership, and fractionalization within our hobby continue to drive the need for fresh ideas, tough fiscal responsibility and creative thinking.

Our efforts to improve the NMRA's relationship with the model railroad industry and other hobby organizations must continue. As a member of the Publications Committee, I will continue to push for further improvements to the NMRA Magazine along with continued analysis of how we deliver information to all NMRA members.

I have been an effective leader at the division, region, and national levels and will continue to press for success. The NMRA is at a critical crossroad in its history and the decisions enacted on in the future will allow us to remain a viable and vibrant organization.

My business expertise, current and past service at the national level, gives me the background to identify problems and to act decisively to correct them. If I am re-elected, I will do my best to deal with these challenges and build on the strong foundation laid by those who have preceded us. Thank you for your support."